



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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November 27, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Site Inspection, Deseret Generation and Transmission, Diamond Mountain Resources Limestone Mine, M/047/066, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 8, 2002

Time of Inspection: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Conditions: Clear, breezy, 50's

Participants: Jerry Hascall, Bill Curry, Brad Dixon, and Merrill Vertosh, DG&T; Doug Jensen and Paul Baker, DOGM

## Purpose of Inspection:

The Division had completed its third review of DG&T's mine plan, and we wanted to meet on site to discuss some of the issues. Mr. Jensen and I also wanted to look at reclamation that was done the previous year and to see how the site had changed since our visit in September 2001.

## Observations:

The southernmost area of the mine pit has been graded, soiled, and seeded with mixed success. The west portion of this area was ripped parallel to the contour, but the east side was apparently ripped perpendicular to the contour. In spite of the extreme drought the area has had this past spring and summer, vegetation on the west side is coming in very nicely. On the east side, however, there is almost no vegetation, either seeded species or weeds. Most of the vegetation growing on the west side consists of grasses which are hard to identify because this is their first year. Photo 1 is a view looking south at this area, so the ripped area is on the right side of the photo. There is a dramatic difference between the west and east sides which does not show up well in the photo. Photo 2 is an overall view of the reclaimed area.

There are some areas on the northeast side of the mine that have been reclaimed. Most of these areas did not have a lot of disturbance, but the operator has scarified and, I assume, seeded them. We did not look closely at these areas to see how well the seeded vegetation was coming in, but they did have some weeds (Photo 3).

The operator did some exploration in the northwest part of the area a few years ago and reclaimed this area. In the September 2001 inspection, we noted some cracks indicating there might be

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some sloughage. The operator has filled the cracks with soil, and we could see no further signs of movement.

Although we did not use a GPS to map the disturbed area, it did not appear the operator had disturbed additional area. If any additional areas have been disturbed, they are small.

During the inspection, the operator was drilling on the north side of the pit in preparation for blasting (Photo 4).

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

In the future, the operator should be sure to rip parallel to the contour. In the area on the south side of the pit that was reclaimed last year, it is possible some remedial work may be needed on the east side, but I recommend waiting one more season before deciding whether to do this.

The exploration area is included in the area the operator plans to mine, so as soon as the mine plan is approved, they should request release from the exploration notice of intention.

We discussed how much soil needs to be placed over the pit or over reject material. This issue is further addressed in the operator's response to the Division's third review of the mine plan, but, basically, the operator intends to place about 18 inches of soil over either reject material or the fractured pit bottom.

The operator and the Division should continue to monitor the reclaimed areas on the northeast side of the mine.

jb

cc: Jerry Hascall and Bill Curry, DG&T  
Chauncey Todd, Forest Service

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## ATTACHMENT

### Photographs

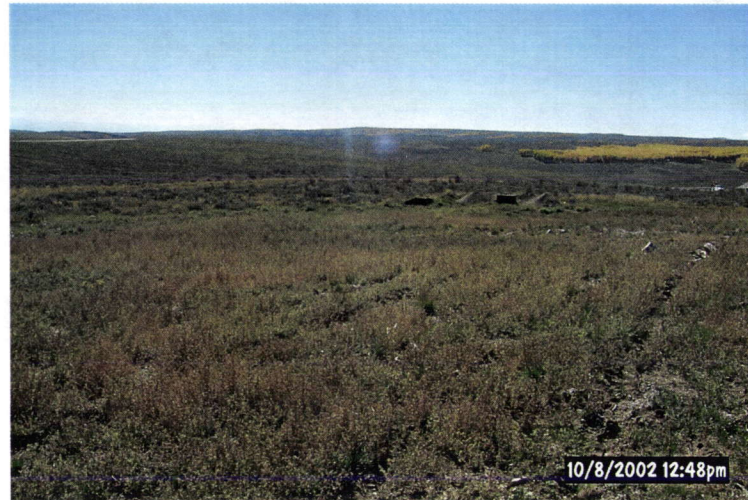
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**Photo 1.** Reclaimed area on the south side of the pit. Area on the right was ripped parallel to the contour and has much more vegetation than the area on the left although it is not clearly visible in this photo.



**Photo 2.** Overall view of the reclaimed area south of the pit.



**Photo 3.** Reclaimed area on the northeast side of the mine.



**Photo 4.** Drilling on the north side of the pit.